

The Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) is the primary form for requesting registration and/or an absentee ballot from your local election official. **Read all instructions printed below and on the FPCA before completing and signing your application.**

**FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION**[illegible]

## Application Instructions

Circled letters on the form above correspond to the instructions below. **You must complete all shaded areas.**

**A.** Do not leave blank. Enter “N/A” if not applicable or if you are a first time voter.

**B.** Provide the complete street address of your Montana voting residence. A post office box is not sufficient. If your address includes a rural route, describe its location. For example: “on Highway \_\_\_\_, 2 miles past Highway \_\_\_\_, across the street from the \_\_\_\_ gas station.” This address must be different from

the one provided in Item 4 and must be within the county or township where you claim legal voting residence.

**C.** Print the complete address where you want your ballot sent - usually your current mailing address. It must be different from the address you provided in Item 3.

**D.** Check ONE box.

**E. You must sign and date the FPCA. When signing, you are swearing or affirming the information is true and correct.**

## I. UNIFORMED SERVICES

### A. Who Can Do It

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of Montana and members of the U.S. Armed Forces, merchant marine, and religious groups or welfare agencies assisting and officially attached to the Armed Forces, their spouses and dependents.

### B. Registering and Requesting an Absentee Ballot

The Montana requirement to submit a separate FPCA for special elections has been superseded by recently passed Federal legislation (Public Law 107-107) that provides for the submission of a single FPCA for all elections in the calendar year.

To register and request an absentee ballot, send a completed FPCA or Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) to the local county election administrator so that it arrives not later than 30 days before the election. You may only use the FWAB if you are outside the U.S.

If you are unable to meet the 30 day deadline, you may submit a FPCA so that it is received by noon on the day before the election.

If you are already registered and only wish to request an absentee ballot, send a completed FPCA to the county election administrator during the period beginning 75 days before the election; it must be received by noon on the day before the election.

### C. Casting Your Vote

**Ballot Return Deadline:** Voted ballot must arrive by 8:00 p.m. on election day.

Local election officials mail absentee ballots approximately 45 days before elections for Federal office. For other elections, ballots are mailed approximately 20 days before the election.

If you did not receive your state ballot in a timely manner, see instructions in Chapter 2, page 12, for use of the **Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot**. See also the special Montana provisions in Paragraph F., Section III. below.

### D. Notary/Witness Requirements

No registration or voting materials are notarized or witnessed.

### E. Electronic Transmission of FPCAs and Ballots

- Montana allows you to send the FPCA and FWAB for registration and absentee ballot by fax. After faxing, submit the form by mail.
- Montana allows you to receive the blank ballot by fax.
- Montana allows you to return the voted ballot by fax if your county of voting residence has the facility for voting by fax.

Only the following Montana counties currently have facilities for voting via fax: Big Horn, Cascade, Custer, Flathead, Jefferson, Lincoln, McCone, Prairie, Ravalli, Rosebud, Stillwater and Toole. Residents of other Montana counties must use the mail.

Please refer to Appendix C for specific instructions when transmitting election materials electronically. Use only the following numbers:

DSN 223-5527  
(703) 693-5527  
1-800-368-8683

Instructions continue in Section III: Uniformed Services & Civilians Outside U.S.

## II. CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

### A. Who Can Do It

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens and residents of Montana, and overseas electors. The term “overseas elector” means a U.S. citizen who resides outside the U.S. and (but for such residence) would be qualified to vote in Montana.

- Montana residents temporarily residing outside the U.S. (for local, state and Federal office ballots)
- overseas electors (for local, state and Federal office ballots)

***Notify Your Local Election Official About Your Current Mailing Address***

## B. Registering and Requesting an Absentee Ballot

The Montana requirement to submit a separate FPCA for special elections has been superseded by recently passed Federal legislation (Public Law 107-107) that provides for the submission of a single FPCA for all elections in the calendar year.

To register and request an absentee ballot, send a completed FPCA or Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) to the local county election administrator so that it arrives not later than 30 days before the election.

If you are unable to meet the 30 day deadline, you may submit a FPCA so that it is received by noon on the day before the election.

If you are already registered and only wish to request an absentee ballot, send a completed FPCA to the county election administrator during the period beginning 75 days before the election; it must be received by noon on the day before the election.

## C. Casting Your Vote

**Ballot Return Deadline:** Voted ballot must arrive by 8:00 p.m. on election day.

Local election officials mail absentee ballots approximately 45 days before elections for Federal office. For other elections, ballots are mailed approximately 20 days before the election.

If you did not receive your state ballot in a timely manner, see instructions in Chapter 2, page 12, for use of the **Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot**. See also the special Montana provisions in Paragraph F., Section III. below.

## D. Notary/Witness Requirements

No registration or voting materials are notarized or witnessed.

## E. Electronic Transmission of FPCAs and Ballots

- Montana allows you to send the FPCA and FWAB for registration and absentee ballot by fax. After faxing, submit the form by mail.
- Montana allows you to receive the blank ballot by fax.

- Montana allows you to return the voted ballot by fax if your county of voting residence has the facility for voting by fax.

Only the following Montana counties currently have facilities for voting via fax: Big Horn, Cascade, Custer, Flathead, Jefferson, Lincoln, McCone, Prairie, Ravalli, Rosebud, Stillwater and Toole. Residents of other Montana counties must use the mail.

Please refer to Appendix C for specific instructions when transmitting election materials electronically. Use only the following numbers:

DSN 223-5527  
(703) 693-5527  
1-800-368-8683

Instructions continue in Section III: Uniformed Services & Civilians Outside U.S.

# III. UNIFORMED SERVICES & CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

## A. Late Registration

Honorably discharged military personnel and citizens terminated from employment outside the territorial limits of the U.S. following the close of the registration period for the upcoming election are still entitled to register up to noon on the day before the election.

## B. Bars to Registration and Voting

Persons currently incarcerated for a felony or found to be of unsound mind, as determined by a court, may not vote.

## C. Cancellation of Registration

Registration is canceled if the voter fails to respond to certain confirmation mailings and fails to vote in two consecutive elections for Federal office.

## D. Action on Registration Requests

Notice of registration or denial is sent.

## E. Action If Registration Is Denied

No provision exists for appeal of a denial of registration. If denial occurs, consult a legal assistance officer or civilian counsel.

## F. Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot

If you are overseas, and fear you may not receive your ballot in time to vote and return it, you may vote the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB). It must be received by 8 p.m. on election day. The FWAB will be counted if your request for a regular absentee ballot was received not later than 30 days before the election.

If you receive the regular ballot after returning the voted FWAB, you may also vote and return the regular ballot. If both ballots are received by 8 p.m. on election day, the regular ballot will be counted.

The instructions in Chapter 2 still apply for the FWAB except that the voter does not have to wait until he/she determines that the regular ballot will not be received (condition 3) to use the FWAB.

## G. Where To Send It

Mail the FPCA to the County Election Administrator, county of voting residence, as listed below:

| County     | County Seat | Zip Code   |
|------------|-------------|------------|
| Beaverhead | Dillon      | 59725-2799 |
| Big Horn   | Hardin      | 59034-0608 |
| Blaine     | Chinook     | 59523-0278 |
| Broadwater | Townsend    | 59644-2397 |
| Carbon     | Red Lodge   | 59068-0887 |
| Carter     | Ekalaka     | 59324-0315 |
| Cascade    | Great Falls | 59403-2305 |
| Chouteau   | Fort Benton | 59442-0459 |
| Custer     | Miles City  | 59301-3496 |
| Daniels    | Scobey      | 59263-0247 |
| Dawson     | Glendive    | 59330-1694 |
| Deer Lodge | Anaconda    | 59711-2999 |

| County          | County Seat           | Zip Code   |
|-----------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Fallon          | Baker                 | 59313-0846 |
| Fergus          | Lewistown             | 59457-2598 |
| Flathead        | Kalispell             | 59901-5400 |
| Gallatin        | Bozeman               | 59715-4574 |
| Garfield        | Jordan                | 59337-0007 |
| Glacier         | Cut Bank              | 59427-3075 |
| Golden Valley   | Ryegate               | 59074-0010 |
| Granite         | Philipsburg           | 59858-0736 |
| Hill            | Havre                 | 59501-3999 |
| Jefferson       | Boulder               | 59632-0249 |
| Judith Basin    | Stanford              | 59479-0485 |
| Lake            | Polson                | 59860-2174 |
| Lewis and Clark | Helena                | 59624-1721 |
| Liberty         | Chester               | 59522-0459 |
| Lincoln         | Libby                 | 59923-1941 |
| Madison         | Virginia City         | 59755-0366 |
| McCone          | Circle                | 59215-0199 |
| Meagher         | White Sulphur Springs | 59645-0309 |
| Mineral         | Superior              | 59872-0550 |
| Missoula        | Missoula              | 59801-4292 |
| Musselshell     | Roundup               | 59072-2498 |
| Park            | Livingston            | 59047-1037 |
| Petroleum       | Winnett               | 59087-0226 |
| Phillips        | Malta                 | 59538-0646 |
| Pondera         | Conrad                | 59425-2383 |
| Powder River    | Broadus               | 59317-0338 |
| Powell          | Deer Lodge            | 59722-1084 |
| Prairie         | Terry                 | 59349-0125 |
| Ravalli         | Hamilton              | 59840-5002 |
| Richland        | Sidney                | 59270-4087 |
| Roosevelt       | Wolf Point            | 59201-1600 |
| Rosebud         | Forsyth               | 59327-3072 |
| Sanders         | Thompson Falls        | 59873-0249 |
| Sheridan        | Plentywood            | 59254-1699 |
| Silver Bow      | Butte                 | 59701-9256 |
| Stillwater      | Columbus              | 59019-0147 |
| Sweet Grass     | Big Timber            | 59011-0460 |
| Teton           | Choteau               | 59422-0610 |
| Toole           | Shelby                | 59474-1990 |
| Treasure        | Hysham                | 59038-0392 |
| Valley          | Glasgow               | 59230-0311 |
| Wheatland       | Harlowton             | 59036-0903 |
| Wibaux          | Wibaux                | 59353-0207 |
| Yellowstone     | Billings              | 59107-5002 |

***Tomorrow's Journey Begins Today: Vote***

by MSgt Philip W. Lopes, Jr., Kadena AFB, Japan